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Austria

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## AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT ANSWERS SOVIET HIGH COMMISSIONER

1. — The Soviet High Commissioner declared that the decisions of the Allied Council regarding the establishment of democracy in Austria have so far not been carried out in Austria, and that the Austrian Government ignoring a basic decision of the Allied Council, has forced on the Austrian people the antidemocratic Constitution of 1929.

The Austrian Government replies: It is not true that Austria has no democratic constitution today. The Allied Council expressly approved on Nov. 30, 1945 the interim Constitution Law, Art. One of which put into effect the 1929 version of the Austrian Constitution as well as all Constitutional laws valid on March 5, 1933.

By its decision of Mar. 25, 1946 — The Soviet High Commissioner erroneously gave the date as Mar. 30 — the Allied Council did not revoke its earlier unanimous approval of the reinstatement of the Austrian Constitution, but stated erroneously that Austria at that time had no definite constitution.

The Nationalrat, at its meeting on Apr. 12, 1946, approved the juridically convincing explanations of the Chancellor who pointed out that Austria already had a definite constitution which had become fully effective with the first meeting of the Nationalrat on Dec. 19, 1945.

Since the legislative authority in a democratic parliamentary republic — also in Austria — rests exclusively with the freely elected Parliament, and since this Parliament expressed the opinion that Austria already had a definite democratic constitution, the Austrian Government could not disregard the will of the Nationalrat.

Besides, it cannot be said that the 1929 version of the Austrian Constitution fails to comply with democratic principles. Its Art. One declares, "Austria is a democratic republic. Its law is founded on the will of the people. The electoral franchise applies to all Austrian citizens above the age of 20. On the basis of secret ballots, legislative bodies are established which have exclusive authority to enact laws. The executive organs are partly elected directly by the people and partly appointed by the freely elected legislative bodies. All administrative organs require the approval of the legislative organs and can be held legally and politically responsible."

The Constitution also lists a number of basic rights which serve the realization of democratic principles. To safeguard democracy, the Constitution is governed by the

Summary of Reply of the Austrian Government to the Charges by the Soviet High Commissioner General Sviridov at recent Allied Council Session

principle of separation of powers. The people influence the policy of the State through elected representatives who in Parliament, in Provincial Diets, and in municipal councils participate in the legislative and in the executive process.

The people also influence the State through direct participation in political decisions such as in the election of a Federal President and in public petitions or plebiscites. All this proves that Austria has a "Constitution based on definite democratic principles."

2 — The Soviet High Commissioner declared that "hundreds of reactionary laws introduced by the Hitler authorities are still in force" and that 300 of the new laws submitted to the Allied Council for approval were of an obviously reactionary nature; that the legislative activity of the Austrian Government prevents the development of democratic freedom in Austria and creates conditions for the revival of reactionary tendencies.

The Austrian Government replies: It is not true that after Austria's liberation "hundreds of reactionary laws" were maintained, including many which had been introduced by Hitler authorities. The Legislative Adjustment Law of May 1, 1945, which was expressly approved by the Allied Council on Nov. 25, 1945, has revoked all laws and regulations enacted after Mar. 13, 1938, which were incompatible with the existence of a free and independent Austria or with the principles of a genuine democracy, or which violated the concept of law of the Austrian people or contained typical Nazi ideas.

Many such laws and regulations were revoked by the Government in 34 decrees, and legislative organs repealed no less than 1,625 German laws and regulations.

The Austrian Government is not aware of any "300 laws enacted without the approval of the Allied Council." In accordance with the provisions of the Control Agreement, constitutional laws require unanimous Allied Council approval. All other laws can only be prevented from becoming effective if the Allied Council unanimously rejects them within 31 days. The Austrian Government is not aware of any violation of these provisions in any single case.

It is true that some laws have become valid in the absence of a unanimous Allied Council veto, but the Austrian Government has thereby not violated the Control Agreement but on the contrary observed it to the letter.

As to the charge that the Austrian Government had en-

acted such laws regardless of the objections raised by Austrian "democratic organizations," it must be said that the authority to enact laws in Austria rests exclusively with the legislative body established on the basis of free elections. The political parties only decide on laws in the Nationalrat, where they are represented in proportion to the votes they received in the general elections.

The fact that the elections held since Austria's liberation brought only minor changes in the distribution of political forces in Parliament shows that the Austrian people fully approve of the democratic system and its institutions in this country.

The Austrian press law has been described as "aimed at suppressing the democratic press." This is refuted by the fact that it was passed by the freely elected Nationalrat in 1922 shortly after the establishment of the Republic. The amendment to the press law which was under criticism last spring serves no other purpose than to eliminate undemocratic changes contained in the "Buerkel decree" of 1939 and to adjust the press law to present conditions, which is fully in line with the elimination of Hitler legislation demanded by the Soviet High Commissioner.

The "Hitler-fascist" wage-tax law of 1939 is no longer valid as its schedule was replaced on July 1, 1949 by a new Austrian schedule providing both for wage and for income tax rates. There is no such thing as an additional tax burden for war purposes, unless the High Commissioner is referring to the extra 10 percent charge which is added to income and wage tax to cover Occupation costs.

The charge that the Austrian Government parties have taken no step whatsoever in the matter of land reforms is unjustified. Proposals for such a reform were submitted to the Nationalrat as early as 1946. That no decision was reached on the issue is last but not least due to the fact that any land reform law would be a half-way measure as long as large portions of Austrian land are placed outside of Austria's sphere of influence, such as, for instance, airfields, training grounds, or "German assets." However, considerable efforts have constantly been made regarding small scale settlement.

The assertion that the Austrian Government has subjected the country's economy to U.S. control by a number of economic laws thus "seriously obstructing the reestablishment of a healthy and democratic national life" has often been repeated but never proved. These laws were necessary to insure the supply of processing industries with scarce raw materials and the just distribution of certain products.

ERP aid has rendered Austria invaluable services for the improvement of the economic situation. Thus it was possible to restrict economic controls to the following six groups of goods: Scrap iron; crude lead, zinc, tin, nickel, copper and copper alloys; petroleum and its products; skins; hides and leather; coal; wool, cotton, rayon, and cellulose wool. The Economic Control Law of 1951 included additional groups of goods as a precaution, but these provisions were hardly ever applied.

The list of goods alone proves that the economic control laws have not placed Austria under the control of any Occu-

pation Power, because in this case it would have been necessary to extend the economic controls also over goods of importance to Austria's economy, such as iron and steel, lumber, textiles, building materials and paper. The textile industry, for instance, was allocated several million dollars worth of cotton under the Marshall Plan, but its processing was not subject to any control. It is obvious that the economic controls are serving exclusively the interests of the Austrian economy.

3 - The Soviet High Commissioner declared that the State and administrative apparatus in Austria has remained largely reactionary and bureaucratic and called for a serious democratic reshuffle in Austria's administration as provided by the Four Power decisions.

The Austrian Government replies: Civil Service regulations valid prior to 1933 were reintroduced in 1945 and completely new staffs were set up. The present method of Civil Service examinations can be found in any political system and is designed to guarantee that civil servants are chosen on the strength of their qualifications rather than for their political viewpoints.

It is completely untrue that the Austrian Government ignores the Constitutions and legislation of the Provinces so that the Provincial Governments are excluded from active politics. The fact that directives of the Provincial Governor are usually issued at the request of the Federal Government without reference to the Landtage (Provincial Diets) confirms the federal structure of the Austrian Republic as laid down in the Constitution. In such cases the Provincial Governor is not acting as an official of the Province but for the Federal administration. In matters pertaining to Federal administration the Landtage have no right of codecision.

4 - The Soviet High Commissioner declares that the Austrian Government with direct support from Western Occupation Powers is persecuting democratic organizations, their newspapers and representatives.

The assertion that the Austrian Peace Council, the Free Austrian Youth, the League of Democratic Women, and the Austrian Association of Democratic Ethnic Germans are systematically being persecuted lacks all foundation. None of these organizations have ever been interfered with unless they violated existing Austrian laws. Equally untrue is the assertion that participants in a demonstration of the so-called Austrian Peace Council before the Chancellery on June 19, 1951 were arrested for having participated in the rally. Several persons were detained by Vienna police and released as soon as order was restored. Nothing is known at all as to the alleged arrest by Vienna police of several peace demonstrators in Vienna's 21st District.

In several Vienna enterprises workers were not dismissed for having participated in the September and October strikes of 1950 but for sabotage in their own enterprises. Such dismissals were limited to a small number only and were canceled in cases where the component labor arbitration board refused to give its approval. The assertion that "on instruction from the Americans 40 progressive employees of the Austrian administration of the Danube Shipping Company were dismissed" lacks all foundation. Not a single em-

# AUSTRIAN DIESEL TRAIN EXPORTED TO URUGUAY

The special Diesel-hydraulic-engine built by the Austrian Simmering-Graz-Pauker Works for Uruguay recently completed its first 1000-mile tour of Austria.

The train is similar in appearance to the trains of the VT 45 Series of the Austrian Federal Railways, which the people have nicknamed the "Blue Lightning."

The train consists of three parts, each of which has a first- and second-class seating capacity of 70 to 90 seats. In the first-class compartment, the seats are provided with spring inserts and horsehair, covered by red cowhide. In the second-class compartment, the upholstery consists of mixed hair and green cowhide. The interior of all compartments is of plywood covered with walnut veneer, and the flooring consists of corrugated metal, wood planking, wood fiber plates and linoleum surfacing 4 mm.



*Three-sectional Diesel-Hydraulic Self-Propelled Railroad Train (Track Gauge: 1435 mm.) manufactured by the Simmering-Graz-Pauker Aktiengesellschaft (Simmering Works), Vienna, for the Uruguayan National Railways.*

thick. The first-class compartment can be transformed into a dining car by opening up the special built-in tables provided for the purpose. The de-luxe train includes a bar, an electric kitchen and a refrigerator.

On the 25° grading of the Semmering mountain stretch in Lower Austria, the train reached a speed of 40 miles per hour, and on level track its cruising speed averaged 75 miles per hour.

The engine consists of two Diesel motors with a capacity of 500HP each, built by the Simmering-Graz-Pauker Works. The under-carriage has a width of 1435 mm. (about 56 inches).

The Austrian people are following the train's run through Austria with keen interest and enthusiasm.

employee was dismissed on American orders. Employees were only dismissed in cases of gross disobedience or smuggling.

The assertion that "the democratic Austrian papers VOLKSSTIMME, DER NEUE VORWAERTS and DER OSTEN had to pay illegal fines and that copies of these papers were confiscated in violation of the law" is false. Copies of these papers were confiscated only when their contents violated provisions of the Austrian press law.

## AUSTRIAN PRESS REACTION TO LAST SOVIET NOTE.

The following is a summary of Austrian press reaction to the latest Soviet note on the Austrian State Treaty.

The "Neue Oesterreich" (without party affiliation) wrote: "It becomes ever more apparent that the method adopted by

the world powers for settling the Austrian problem was, from the very start destined to be unfortunate and inconclusive. With the old tactics of more or less adroit diplomatizing and carefully weighed concessions of a secondary nature the core of the problem has really never been tackled, namely, how and by what measures can the mutual distrust between the negotiating parties be dispelled — i.e. the fear that a real liberation of Austria will upset the artificial balance of power in this part of Europe. Repeatedly, the so-called 'Deputies' have been granted limited powers and then charged to undertake the Sisyphus-like work of tedious negotiations on individual issues, while those by whom the Deputies were instructed had not talked directly to each other even once to arrive at some sort of understanding regarding what they

thought were the basic conditions which would have to be fulfilled if a result was finally to be achieved. In other words, the question as to whether mutual distrust would continue or whether mutual trust could finally be established can only be solved by talks on the 'highest levels'."

The "Arbeiter-Zeitung" (Socialist) commented as follows: "We fully know that the only thing that is preventing the conclusion of a State Treaty is the repeated refusal on the part of the Soviet Union, based on cynical pretexts, to arrive at an understanding. We have just had renewed evidence of this, and again we have taken cognizance of this stand. The Austrian Government and representatives of the people will have to seek the best way to bring this denial of justice to the attention of world opinion."

The "Neue Wiener Tageszeitung" (People's Party), in an article entitled, "What Does Moscow Want?", wrote the following: "As a result of the recent Soviet note, all further diplomatic cooperation has become impossible, confidence has been destroyed and the peoples of the world have been greatly disappointed in their aspirations for peace. The Soviet note states that two basic prerequisites for the conclusion of the State Treaty have not yet been met, namely, the denazification and demilitarization of Austria. What is hidden behind these diplomatic objections can be deduced from the slogans of the Communist press which claims that Austria is not a Democratic state and that the main obstacles to the State Treaty are the 'Western Powers' and the 'Figl-Schaerf Government'. The Communist press is collecting — probably not without instructions to do so — 'material' against Austria, for even the Soviet High Commissioner asserts that Austria is not a 'Democracy', while the Soviet Government sends notes which indicate that it cannot conclude a treaty with a democratic Government that is not a 'People's Democracy'. One cannot escape the feeling that the Communists wish to conclude agreements only with those countries where the Communists have already seized power. But there can be no State Treaty at the cost of freedom!"

**BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER PROMISES FULFILLMENT OF MOSCOW DECLARATION.** "The aim for which the Austrian and British Governments are striving is complete freedom and independence for Austria. This has been promised to the Austrian people in the Moscow Declaration of 1943, which I myself have signed during my previous period of office as Foreign Minister", British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden declared in a press conference on September 25, 1952 in Vienna, at the British Embassy which was attended by some 50 Austrian and foreign correspondents. Mr. Eden who had arrived in Vienna on September 23, and who left the City on September 26, for a two-day visit to Carinthia to inspect British troops stationed there also declared on behalf of the British Government: "It was the British Government which had raised the Austrian question at the Moscow conference in 1943 and I can assure you that the British Government has not forgotten it. We are making every effort — and we shall continue, with our Allies, to make every effort to see that this promise is fulfilled."

During his official stay in Austria Mr. Eden participated in official conversations with the Austrian President Koerner, Chancellor Leopold Figl, Vice Chancellor Adolf Schaerf and Foreign Minister Dr. Karl Gruber.

At a reception on September 24, Chancellor Figl welcomed Mr. Eden with these words: "Your visit, Mr. Secretary, is an expression of your interest in our country and again confirms your readiness to help and support Austria in her struggle for freedom." Mr. Eden answered: "Permit me, Mr. Chancellor, to tell you that the British people have the warmest feelings of friendship for their Austrian friends. Our two countries share common responsibility for the fate of Europe."

On September 23, Mr. Eden attended a performance of Mozart's "Don Giovanni" at the Vienna State Opera. On September 24, Ambassador Sir Harold Caccia of Great Britain gave a reception in honor of the British Foreign Minister which was attended by many members of the Austrian Government.

**CHANCELLOR FIGL FAVORS FREE CIVIL AVIATION IN AUSTRIA.** In reply to a Parliamentary question concerning opposition to the establishment of a system of civil aviation in Austria, Chancellor Leopold Figl revealed at the end of September that he had already sent three notes to the Allied Council on the subject. (These notes were dated October 15, 1948; November 15, 1949; and November 17, 1949 — Ed.) In connection with his reply, Dr. Figl said: "Since in all countries of the world civil aviation is an inseparable part of the general system of transportation and an important basis for economic development, the (Austrian) Federal Government has requested that the unjustified restrictions in the field of civil aviation be lifted, and that an Austrian civil aviation service and the organization of the essential ground facilities required for such a service be established. Particular emphasis was given to the granting by the Austrian authorities of permits for flights to and through Austria by planes of the I.C.A.O. member states, the establishment of a suitable weather service and an air-traffic control service operating on the basis of international regulations, and the release of at least one of the airports in the vicinity of Vienna for the organization of an airline financed with Austrian capital." In closing, Chancellor Figl said that since the last requests had not been granted, the Federal Government would again approach the Allied Council after a suitable lapse of time.

**U.S. AMBASSADOR OPENS "AMERICA HOUSE" IN LINZ.** At the end of September, U.S. Ambassador L.E. Thompson opened the "Amerikahaus" in Linz, Upper Austria. The house was designed by American architects, the construction plans were drawn up by Austrian architects and actual construction was carried out by Austrian workers and craftsmen. The "America House" includes a motion picture projection room, several reading rooms and a library of some 30,000 books. On the occasion of the formal opening, Ambassador Thompson said that the United States would continue its material aid to Austria as a sign of its friendship for that country. Such aid was a sign of deep-rooted confidence. America is convinced that Austria has a great mission in the heart of Europe, one which she will surely fulfill.

**AUSTRIA HAS A BALANCE OF \$14,500,000 WITH THE E.P.U.** In its report covering the month of August 1952, the Austrian Institute of Economic Research revealed that Austria's balance with the European Payments Union showed a surplus of 6,100,000 dollars in July and one of 8,400,000 in August. The report also states that Austria will therefore not have to request a credit to bridge the gap until the dollar aid program for 1952-53 is finally clarified. Another reason why such a move will not be necessary, the Institute believes, is the gratifying volume of foreign exchange Austria earned this season from foreign tourists. Moreover, less foreign exchange was spent by the country for imports in July than in the previous month. Another factor is that Austria's credit institutions now hold large additional liquid assets, as a result of their cautious credit policy.

The report also announced that the downward trend in production and employment appears to have come to a standstill. Developments on the labor market were satisfactory and prices have become stabilized following the downward trend of the past few months, with some individual commodities even showing an increase. Those branches of industry which had suffered from a lack of markets have now received new orders. The comparatively active business activity at the Dornbirn Textile Fair likewise indicates a slight economic revitalization.

**EASTERN EUROPEAN SATELLITES OWE AUSTRIA 10,500,000 DOLLARS.** The Arbeiter-Zeitung recently reported that Austria has a favorable balance of trade with the countries of Eastern Europe, the balance in her favor amounting to some 10,500,000 dollars, or about 250,000,000 schillings. In other words, on the basis of existing trade agreements, Austria has exported goods worth \$10,500,000 more to the countries of Eastern Europe than she has received from them. For commodity deliveries, Czechoslovakia owes Austria more than 2,500,000 dollars; Poland owes \$5,000,000 and Rumania and Hungary \$1,500,000 each. Bulgaria is the only country in Eastern Europe which has met its trade commitments to Austria.

**AUSTRIAN ECONOMIC MISSION TO VISIT "UNDERDEVELOPED AREAS".** Within the framework of the United States program of aid to "underdeveloped areas," an Austrian trade delegation will travel to the Far East and visit Burma, Indonesia and the Philippines. In this connection, the publication "Industrie" reports that the erection of electric power plants, expansion of the communications network, establishment of fertilizer plants and the delivery of machinery, apparatus and instruments are part of the program. The publication also announced that the Austrian Government has invited representatives of Austrian private firms or organizations to accompany the official Austrian delegation, at their own expense. The members of the delegation will establish personal contact with the governments, banks, industries and trade representatives in the Far East. Overseas trade with these areas would thus offer the Austrian economy new outlets and possibilities of development.

**NAVIGATION UNDER AUSTRIAN FLAG RESUMED IN EASTERN EUROPE.** Trade negotiations between Austria and Hungary were satisfactorily completed at the end of September, with Hungary agreeing to the resumption of Danube shipments to Austria and to most points of a Danube Shipping Charter submitted by Austria. The new agreement provides for both countries to have an equal share of the freight traffic. The first vessel flying the Austrian flag is expected to call at a Hungarian port next spring. With the opening of the Danube river route, which is much less expensive than the rail route, Austria can now receive bulk shipments by water, especially of bulk goods supplied by Hungary under the present trade agreement (grain, corn and oil seeds), thus enabling her to effect considerable savings in foreign exchange costs which the rail shipments had heretofore required.

**AUSTRIA AND ARGENTINA RAISE THEIR ENVOYS TO THE RANK OF AMBASSADORS.** At the end of September the Austrian and Argentine Governments reached an agreement to raise their legations in Buenos Aires and Vienna to the rank of embassies.

**AFGHAN ENVOY IN VIENNA COMMENTS ON AFGHAN-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS.** General Assedollah Khan Seraj, the Afghan Envoy in Vienna, recently granted an interview to the Wiener Zeitung in which he recalled that the friendly relations between Austria and Afghanistan go back to the days following World War I when a large number of Austrians came to Afghanistan as instructors. These Austrians were still active in his country, General Seraj said, in banking, agriculture and the textile industry, as well as at colleges and universities. The Envoy added that Afghanistan was now engaged in developing its rich economic potential. In this connection, it was his belief that the establishment of an Austrian Federal Chamber of Commerce in Kabul would be desirable.

**INSTITUTE FOR BANKING REOPENED IN VIENNA.** Resuming an old tradition, the Hochschule fuer Welthandel (Academy of World Trade) will reopen its Institute for Banking (Institut für Bankbetriebslehre) with the beginning of the academic year 1952-53. Headed by Prof. Dr. Hans Krasensky, the Institute will be run by a number of banking experts. Before World War II, the Institute was highly regarded for its international scholastic reputation.

**DIRECTOR OF U.N.O. INFORMATION CENTER IN GENEVA VISITED VIENNA.** Henry Shapiro, Director of the United Nations Information Center in Geneva visited Austria late in September. On the occasion of a reception given by the Austrian delegation for the United Nations, the UN official said that in the course of his travels through Austria he found, to his great satisfaction, a constantly growing interest in the work of the United Nations on the part of all segments of the population. He added that it was the desire of most countries soon to be able to welcome Austria into the ranks of the world organization.

**AUSTRIAN BANK DIRECTORS DISCUSS FINANCIAL PROBLEMS WITH ITALY.** Early in October, financial discussions were held between Austria and Italy, with the following experts participating: Dr. Joham and Dr. Landertshammer, Director Generals of the Creditanstalt and Laenderbank, respectively, President Corridori of the Banco Nazionale del Lavoro, Director Pollak of the same bank, President Conte Favetti of the Austrian-Italian Chamber of Commerce and Dr. Martin, Secretary General of the latter organization.

The financial and trade relations between the two countries were discussed in great detail, with the agenda including such items as the necessity of mutual investments to cover the cost of the raw material requirements of both countries, and the possibility of Italian capital investments in the construction of Austrian electric power projects. Italy is reported to be greatly interested in importing electric power from Austria, and is prepared to contribute capital to finance such projects.

**AUSTRIA AND GREECE HOLD TRADE TALKS.** An Austrian-Greek trade commission met in Vienna during September to work out a program for intensifying trade between the two countries. Austria is interested in creating openings for her manufactured goods which require a high labor factor. One of the main difficulties so far has been the rigid system of Greek import licensing, which has hampered Austrian exports to that country. At the present time, Austria has a favorable balance of trade with Greece.

**AUSTRIAN GLASS INDUSTRY EMPLOYS 10,000 WORKERS.** At the present time, the Austrian glass industry encompasses more than 60 enterprises employing a total of about 10,000 workers. Its chief products are bottles, electric bulbs, glass tubes, lead glass pipes, jewelry stones, window and smelting glass, laboratory glass, lamp glass, glass rods, spectacle glass, mirror glass and Xmas-tree decorations. The Austrian glass industry is in a position not only to meet all domestic requirements but also to export approximately one half of its output. Exports of glass in 1951 reached a value of 240,000,000 schillings (the corresponding figures in 1948 and 1945 were 71,000,000 and 50,000,000 schillings). Austrian glass is made from domestic raw materials; only quartz sand, refractory materials and special machines are imported. The use of domestic coal, electric power and oil has made this industry independent of fuel imports. The four Austrian manufacturing centers for various glass products are Vienna, Graz-Köflach, Linz-Enns-Steyr and Tyrol.

**U.N. ECONOMIC COMMISSION TO ALLOCATE 594,000 TONS OF RUHR COAL TO AUSTRIA.** It was recently announced that on the basis of the allocations made by the Coal Committee of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe Austria is to receive a total of 594,000 tons of Ruhr coal during the fourth quarter of 1952 (October to December). Of this amount, 414,000 tons are bituminous coal, 120,000 tons briquettes and 60,000 tons coke.

**AUSTRIAN MANAGEMENT SEMINAR PLANNED IN SALZBURG.** A "Management Seminar" will be held for the first time in Austria from October 13 to 17 and from October 20 to

24, 1952. The seminar is being jointly sponsored by American and Austrian authorities. The main purpose of the seminar is to acquaint a large number of industrialists and directors of major corporations with the principles and methods of modern industrial management as practiced in the United States. Lectures will be given by leading American industrialists on the following subjects: "Organization and Management"; "Production Planning and Technical Management"; "Financing and Cost Control"; "Market Analysis and Merchandising Policy"; "Human Relations"; and "Selection and Training of Managers". Some 160 persons have already announced their participation.

**AUSTRIA'S AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRIES INCREASE PRODUCTION.** During the current year, the Austrian automotive industry has stepped up its production and exports by an average 35-40%. The total output for the first six months of 1952 adds up to a value of 1,013,700,000 schillings, as against 621,000,000 schillings for the corresponding period of 1951. Motorcycle output rose in value from 380,000,000 in 1951 to 697,000,000 for the first six months of 1952; the production of car bodies and side-cars increased from a value of 27,000,000 to 33,000,000 schillings and that of other vehicles (mainly bicycles and trailers) from 68,000,000 to 86,000,000 schillings. The subsidiary industries manufacturing spare parts for motorcycles and automobiles increased the value of their production from 102,000,000 to 135,000,000 schillings. Total exports from Austria's automotive industry increased in value from 136,000,000 schillings for the first six months of 1951 to 172,000,000 schillings for the corresponding period of 1952. Exports of motor vehicles rose in value from 103,000,000 to 143,000,000, whereas the export of other vehicles (bicycles and trailers) and that of the subsidiary industries dropped, respectively, from 5,800,000 to 3,400,000, and from 27,000,000 to 25,000,000 schillings.

## CULTURE AND SCIENCE

### CITY OF VIENNA FEATURED IN NEW AUSTRIAN FILM.

The Austrian film "Symphonie Wien," which was produced in Vienna for the Cultural Office of that city, was shown to the public at a gala premiere late in September, at the invitation of Mayor Franz Jonas. The film was made to give the world a real and faithful picture of the Austrian capital. In addition to the great works of architecture, painting, music, poetry and science of the past centuries, the documentary also illustrates Vienna's great achievements in the fields of medicine, fashions and dance. The picture is enlivened by a lilting score of undying waltzes.

### PROFESSOR MAX GRAF TO LECTURE IN NEW YORK.

Professor Max Graf, the internationally known Austrian music expert and critic, is now holding a seminar on "Music from Brahms to Schönberg and Stravinsky" at the New School of Social Research in New York. The seminar will continue to the end of January, 1953. Professor Graf was on the staff of the New School from 1939 to 1947. In 1948 he returned to the Vienna Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, where he has occupied a chair since 1909.

**AUSTRIAN COMPOSER WINS PRIZE IN GENOA MUSIC COMPETITION.** A violin sonata by Karl J. Perl, a professor of violin at the Conservatory of the City of Vienna, recently won the third prize at the second international competition for composition sponsored by the Academia Internazionale di Musica in Genoa, Italy. Perl was one of 321 competitors from 24 different countries.

**VIENNA ORCHESTRA PERFORMS AT PERUGIA FESTIVAL.** The Vienna Symphony performed as the official festival orchestra at the Perugia (Italy) Festival of Religious Music from September 20 to 29, 1952. In addition to two concerts under Herbert Karajan, featuring the "Requiem" by Johannes Brahms and the "Ninth Symphony" and "Te Deum" by Anton Bruckner, the orchestra also gave a number of concerts under Ruperto Lupi, with a program of Italian religious music by Alessandro Stradella and Giovanni Battista Bassani. A performance of Hector Berlioz's "Requiem" was conducted by Arthur Rodzinsky.

**CITY OF VIENNA BUYS STRAUSS COLLECTION.** At the end of September, the City of Vienna bought two large Strauss collections which had previously been in private hands and are known as the Simon and Meyszner Collections. The collections are valued at some 300,000 schillings and include the autographed scores of the operettas "Der Zigeunerbaron", "Indigo und die 40 Räuber" and "Carnival in Rome", as well as several first editions of works by Josef Strauss, father and son. Likewise included in the collections are a number of letters, programs, pictures and personal documents.

**VIENNA ART SEASON OPENED BY ART-CLUB GALLERY EXHIBITION.** The fall art season in the Austrian capital was recently ushered in with an exhibition of pen-and-ink drawings, brush sketches, monotypes, etchings and crayon drawings by Kurt Moldovan, sponsored by the Art-Club Gallery of Vienna. His "Feste", "Satyrspiel", "Venezianische Karneval" and "Fischfang" attracted particular attention.

**WORLD'S FIRST AUTOMOBILE TO BE DRIVEN DOWN FIFTH AVENUE.** The so-called "Marcus Car", the world's first automobile, which has been preserved at Vienna's Museum of Science, will be brought to the United States in 1953. Dr. Nagler, the Museum's director, will drive the car down Fifth Avenue in New York City. The car is being brought to this country on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Ford Motor Works in Detroit. British automotive engineers have been granted permission to reproduce the vehicle. The copy will be exhibited as a museum piece in England and will also serve as an instruction model.

**PROF. WITZMANN, LEADING VIENNESE ARCHITECT, DIES.** Professor Karl Witzmann, one of Vienna's leading theater architects, recently died at the age of 69. Professor Witzmann was a disciple, and later a collaborator, of Prof. Josef Hoffmann, who created the "Wiener Werkstaetten", the center of Vienna's modern arts and crafts activities. Prof. Witzmann modernized the "Theater in der Josefstadt" and the Vienna "Volksoper", as well as a number of large Viennese movie theaters.

**CULTURAL CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN ST. VEIT THIS MONTH.** The "Second Congress of Contemporary Austrian Authors and Composers" is being held in St. Veit, Carinthia, from October 10 to 12, 1952. The Congress, which is attended by leading representatives of Austria's cultural life, includes a number of lectures, concerts, reports and exhibitions. Some of Austria's best known composers are participating. A book exhibition entitled "Carinthia's Publishing Industry" and an art exhibition of works from the Biedermeier Period in Carinthia complements the program.

**AUSTRIA AND WESTERN GERMANY REACH BOOK TRADE AGREEMENT.** An agreement was recently reached between Austria and the German Federal Republic (Western Germany), under which the imports of books and periodicals from either country will be paid out of the receipts from the exports of books and periodicals. During the first seven months of 1952, Austria's book imports from and exports to Germany were very nearly balanced at 3,400,000 and 3,300,000 DM., respectively.

Austrian trade in books and periodicals with Western Germany during the first seven months of 1952 amounted to:

	Export	in DM	Import
January	416,897.74		322,991.76
February	634,529.47		679,637.71
March	425,451.69		499,308.46
April	521,326.92		504,817.00
May	553,049.94		505,728.46
June	423,120.54		429,743.29
July	342,650.79		467,378.15
First seven months	3,317,027.09		3,409,604.83

**AUSTRIA SENDS DELEGATES TO UNESCO CONGRESS IN VENICE.** Austria sent a delegation of outstanding representatives to the "World Congress of Artists" sponsored by UNESCO, in Venice at the end of September. Among the delegates were the architect Clemens Holzmeister (art), the two poets Franz Theodor Csokor and Felix Braun (literature), and the composer Josef Marx (music). Fritz Wotruba, the Austrian sculptor, is a member of the Executive Committee of the Congress.

**AUSTRIAN DOCUMENTARY FILM ON AFRICA SHOWN BY DR. GUSINDE.** At the 4th International Congress of Anthropology and Ethnology held in Vienna, Dr. Martin Gusinde, an Austrian anthropologist and professor at the Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. since 1949, showed a color film about the Bushmen in the Kalahari Desert of Africa. The film was taken by Dr. Gusinde during an expedition to the Kalahari Desert in 1950-1951 and was much discussed at the Congress.

**CENTROPA FILM COMPANY TO MAKE PICTURE ENTITLED "SARAJEVO 1914".** Centropa Film, the recently founded international motion picture company, is planning to start production on its first full-length feature in the spring of 1953. The film has been given the provisional title of "Sarajevo 1914". It is being produced in several versions by American, Yugoslav and Austrian film people, the outdoor scenes to be shot both in Yugoslavia and Austria.

**NEW AUSTRIAN FILMS.** The film "Waldheimat", based on the book of the same title by Peter Rosegger, the popular Austrian author, has recently been completed. The first showing of the film is planned for the beginning of October. A film version of Ferdinand Raimund's "Der Verschwender", one of Austria's classical popular plays, will also be completed soon. Austria also completed a new scientific film entitled "Kartoffelkultur" (on potato-growing), which won the second prize for documentary films at the 13th Venice Film Festival in August 1952.

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**MOZART AND BEETHOVEN CONCERTS TO BE GIVEN IN VIENNA DURING COMING SEASON.**

Eight evening concerts in the "Grosse Saal" and the "Mozart Saal".

October 9, 1952:

ALL-MOZART CONCERT IN THE GROSSE SAAL.

Violin Concerto in D major, K. 218.

Sinfonia Concertante, K. 364 (viola da braccio played by Renati Sabatini).

Violin Concerto in A major, K. 219.

Vienna Symphony conducted by Heinrich Hollreiser.

Soloist: Wolfgang Schneiderhan.

October 23, 1952:

ALL-MOZART CONCERT IN THE GROSSE SAAL.

Piano Concerto in C major, K. 467.

Piano Concerto in E-flat major, K. 365 (second piano: Gaby Casadesus).

Piano Concerto in C minor, K. 491.

Vienna Symphony conducted by Felix Prohaska.

Soloist: Robert Casadesus.

December 13, 1952:

ALL-MOZART CONCERT IN THE MOZART SAAL.

Great Mass, K. 262.

Davidde Penitente, K. 469.

Vienna Symphony and Vienna Chamber Choir conducted by Reinhold Schmid.

January 18, 1953:

ALL-MOZART CONCERT IN THE MOZART SAAL.

Selected songs. Soloist: Irmgard Seefried.

January 28, 1953:

ALL-BEETHOVEN CONCERT IN THE GROSSE SAAL.

Piano Concerto No. 1 in C, Op. 15

Piano Concerto No. 4 in G, Op. 58

Sonata for Violincello No. 2.

Vienna Symphony conducted by Friedrich Gulda.

Soloists: Friedrich Gulda and Pierre Fournier.

March 12, 1953:

ALL-BEETHOVEN CONCERT IN THE GROSSE SAAL.

Requiem, K. 626.

Lauretanische Litaneien, K. 195.

Vienna Symphony, "Konzertvereinigung" and Vienna State Opera Chorus conducted by Karl Boehm.

April 16, 1953:

ALL-BEETHOVEN CONCERT IN THE GROSSE SAAL.

Missa Solemnis in D, Op. 123.

Vienna Symphony and "Wiener Singakademie" conducted by Carl Schuricht.

April 23, 1953:

BEETHOVEN-MOZART CONCERT IN THE MOZART SAAL.

Beethoven's Septet in E-flat, Op. 20.

Mozart: Quintet in D, K. 593.

Quintet in G minor, K. 516.

The "Wiener Konzerthaus" Quartet and the Wind Instrument Association of the Vienna Philharmonic.

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